

REMARKS:

The above-referenced patent application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action. Reconsideration of the above-referenced patent application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 is amended and claims 14-17 are withdrawn. Therefore, claims 1-13 are pending in the application.

Cohen Art

The Cohen cited art teaches a different cache scheme for master slave for pipeline execution. The previous cited art was for testing and yield improvement. Thus, there is no motivation to combine the teachings. As the Examiner indicates, the Cohen art allows for higher speed access to the cache. The Cohen cited art teaches away from testing and details a different cache architecture for faster pipeline execution. As the Examiner indicates, the Cohen art allows for higher speed access to the cache. Furthermore, the pending application does not utilize the Cohen master slave scheme.

In contrast, the claimed subject matter in the pending application relates to testing and yield improvement and does not have the same master slave cache hierarchy.

35 USC 103 rejection

The Applicant has amended the claims to indicate a set associative cache memory. As previously discussed, this set associative cache memory is different than the master slave concept in Cohen.

The Examiner has combined 5 patents to make an obviousness rejection from a wide field relating to testing, pipeline architecture, and master slave cache memory. When one examines the entire set of claims, the cited art does not teach the actual claim language. The Examiner has made general comments on cache memories for testing and storing valid bits. The Examiner has not presented a convincing line of reasoning as to why the claimed subject matter as a whole, including its differences over the prior art, would have been obvious. Also, the Examiner has presented a large number of references (five) that must be combined to meet the invention. Therefore, this is further evidence of unobviousness.

CONCLUSION:

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that all of the claims pending in this patent application, as amended, are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (503) 712 8918. Reconsideration of this patent application and early allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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